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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/575,182	05/23/2000	Kia Silverbrook	PP01US	9168

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SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD
393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN, 2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER

RAHIMI, IRAJ A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2003

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/575,182

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

Examiner

(Iraj) Alan Rahimi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 May 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. In papers filed on October 16, 2003 applicant amended claims 1 and 3-5 as well as adding new claim 13.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed on September 16, 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kokubo (US patent 5,953,497) et al. in view of Maeda (US patent 5,493,409).

Regarding claim 1, Kokubo et al. discloses a printer module for a compact printer system comprising:

an elongate body having a longitudinal axis (Fig. 1);
a stationary printhead 45 housed within said body 1,
an ink reservoir (ink tank 7) within said body and communicating with said printhead;
a storage device within said body for storing an image to be printed by said printhead
(RAM 16); and

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However, Kokubo does not disclose the body having two opposing slots, the slots being parallel to the longitudinal axis and interconnected by a paper path, which passes through the body. Maeda discloses in column 7, lines 1-4 and column 17, lines 35-41 inlet 21 for receiving precut sheet of paper. The inlet 21 has opening in the front and rear faces. Kokubo and Maeda are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor that is compact printers.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art, at the time of invention to combine Kokubo and Maeda to allow feeding of a cut sheet of paper and printing on it. *Motivation - C. 7, L. 1-4*

Additionally, Kokubo does not disclose powered rollers for moving a printable media through the paper path and past said stationary printhead; and said printhead printing said image on substantially the full width of said printable to media in a single pass.

Maeda discloses means 421 for moving a printable media past said stationary printhead (column 17, lines 35-59); and said printhead printing said image on substantially the full width of said printable to media in a single pass (column 15 lines 54-57 and Fig. 3B).

Regarding claim 2, Kokubo discloses the printer module of claim 1 further comprising a controller, said controller controlling operation of said printer module (control portion 14).

Regarding claim 3, Kokubo discloses the printer module of claim 2 wherein said storage device is flash memory associated with said controller (RAM 16).

Regarding claim 4, Kokubo discloses the printer module of claim 2 wherein said controller includes a device for transferring said image to said printhead (column 6, lines 43-51).

Regarding claim 5, Kokubo discloses the printer module of claim 1 further comprising a sensor for detecting said printing media and activating said means for moving said printing media in response to said detection (Fig. 8B, steps 236-244).

Regarding claim 6, Kokubo discloses the printer module of claim 1 further comprising a power source 150 within said housing.

Regarding claim 8, Kokubo discloses the printer module of claim 1 wherein the elongate body is substantially cylindrical (column 4, lines 23-25 and Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 9, Kokubo discloses the printer module of claim 1 wherein the printhead is a monolithic drop-on demand inkjet printer 45.

Regarding claim 12, Maeda discloses the printer module of claim 2 wherein said controller incorporates image processing and quality assurance integrated circuits (column 7, lines 27-31).

Regarding claim 13, Maeda discloses the printer module of claim 10 wherein the powered rollers 421 are located on opposite sides of the printhead (Fig. 7 and column 14, lines 53-67).

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4. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kokubo (US patent 5,953,497) et al. in view of Maeda (US patent 5,493,409) and further in view of Ross (US patent 4,372, 695).

Regarding claim 7, Kokubo and Maeda do not disclose the printer module of claim 1 further comprising at least one connector at an end of said body for connecting one or more further modules to said printer module and a bus providing power and data between said printer module and said one or more further modules. Ross discloses a connector 24 at the end of printer that carries the power and signals to electrodes. Kokubo, Maeda and Ross are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor that is portable/Handheld printers.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art, at the time of invention to use the connector 24 at the end of printer apparatus to enable receiving and processing of the image data to take place outside of the printer and to enable reducing the size of the printer.

4. Claims 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kokubo (US patent 5,953,497) et al. in view of Maeda (US patent 6,229,565) and further in view of Kasai et al (US patent 5, 028,934).

Regarding claim 10, Kokubo and Maeda do not disclose the printer module of claim 1 wherein the means for moving printable media comprises a motive means driving one or more powered rollers adjacent one or more neutral rollers. Kasai et al. discloses drive roller 18 and guide roller 17A for feeding the paper. Kokubo, Maeda and Kasai et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor that is portable/Handheld printers. Therefore, it

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would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art, at the time of invention to use the powered rollers of Kasai to reduce burden on the user for supplying the paper.

Regarding claim 11, Kasai discloses the printer module of claim 10 wherein the motive means is an electric motor and gearbox (column 3, lines 49-54).

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to (Iraj) Alan Rahimi whose telephone number is 703-306-3473.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L Coles can be reached on 703-305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3800.



Alan Rahimi
November 14, 2003



EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600